



CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

State of Wisconsin

DATE: January 30, 2020

TO: Land Conservation Departments (LCDs) and Land Conservation Committees (LCCs)

FROM: Jennifer Heaton-Amrhein, Land and Water Resources Bureau, DATCP
Chris Clayton, Agricultural Runoff Management Section, DNR

SUBJECT: Joint DATCP/DNR Grant Application Instructions for Calendar Year 2021

Grants From DATCP (Authorized by s. 92.14, Stats, with funding source listed after each grant)

1. **County Annual Staff and Support Grants** (SEG from s. 20.115(7) (qe), Stats. and GPR from s. 20.115(7) (c), Stats.)
2. **County Landowner Cost-Share Grants for LWRM Plan Implementation** (Bond Revenue from s. 20.866(2)(we), Stats.)
3. **County Landowner Cost-Share Grants for Nutrient Management Plans** (SEG from s. 20.115(7) (qf), Stats.)
4. **Statewide Cooperator and Other Project Grants** (SEG from s. 20.115(7) (qf), Stats.) including Nutrient Management Farmer Education

Grants From DNR

1. **Cost-Sharing for Targeted Runoff Management (TRM)** projects (s. 281.65, Stats.)
2. **Cost-Sharing for Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management (UNPS & SW)** projects (s. 281.66, Stats.)

NOTICE: This application is not a commitment by DATCP or DNR to provide specific funding in any grant category. The 2019-2021 biennial budget and any supplemental appropriations will determine the extent of funding available for the annual allocation and the manner in which grants may be awarded. Required lapses or reductions may lower available funding.

SUBMISSION OF COMPLETED GRANT APPLICATIONS

E-mail SWRM grant applications to DATCP by April 15, 2020:

1. **Electronically sign** Excel spreadsheet
(Note: A scanned PDF of the signed application is not required.)
2. **Email** completed application to:
datcpswrn@wisconsin.gov

For questions about the DATCP application, contact:

Kim Carlson at (608) 224-4610,
Kim.Carlson@wisconsin.gov

Susan Mockert at (608) 224-4648,
Susan.Mockert@wisconsin.gov

Submit paper and electronic copies of DNR TRM and UNPS grant application by April 15, 2020, using the following address:

USPS
Department of Natural Resources
Attn: Runoff Mgmt. Grant Coordinator - WT/3
101 South Webster Street
P.O. Box 7921
Madison, WI 53707-7921

For questions about DNR grant, contact Joanna Griffin at (608)264-8953
joanna.griffin@wisconsin.gov

Grant Application Instructions

All DATCP grant application materials are available on the web:

https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/SWRMSect6.aspx

The following instructions track section and subsection numbers in the combined grant application spreadsheet.

First Box on the Application – Insert your county name on the first line. After completing the application, have your LCC Chair or other Authorized County Representative approve the application by typing his or her name in the space provided (this constitutes an electronic signature), inserting that person's title, and including the date. Contact DATCP for guidance if the county cannot sign the document electronically.

SECTION I. STAFFING/PLANNING GRANTS

1. & 2. DATCP Staff and Support Grants: Tier 1 and 2

A. Overview

- 1) Counties will receive a minimum grant award of \$75,000 under Tier 1, and may qualify for additional funding under Tier 2 for eligible positions.
- 2) Through Tier 2, DATCP will attempt to provide counties with funding at the rate of 100%, 70% and 50% to pay for three staff positions based on actual costs for those positions, subject to the eligibility requirements for funding a county's first position (see page 3 for requirements). Based on recent allocations, and unless additional funds are appropriated, DATCP anticipates that it will fund fewer than three positions and will need to prorate awards.
- 3) Counties may seek reimbursement for (i) county staff and LTEs who perform soil and water conservation work at the rates provided in s. 92.14, Stats. and (ii) 100% of eligible training and support costs up to 10% of a county's annual grant allocation.
- 4) In addition to the support costs identified in s. ATCP 50.32(4), DATCP identifies the following as support costs for which all counties may seek reimbursement:
 - a. If a county requires a cost-share practice for a landowner who may qualify for economic hardship treatment under s. ATCP 50.42(4), a county may seek reimbursement for the costs related to an eligibility determination, including the ***costs of a certified public accountant or accredited financial institution preparing a financial statement***.
 - b. If an ***archaeological or cultural resource assessment*** or ***endangered species assessment*** is required at a cost-share project site, then a county may seek reimbursement of the full cost under the category of a support cost. (As an alternative, counties may recover these costs as part of cost-share reimbursement at the 70 or 90 percent rate).
 - c. Conservation-related mapping or data collection (e.g. Lidar) or site investigations.

B. Application Guidance: Completing Table 1 and Requesting Tier 2 funding

- 1) Identify all employees and contractors (including part-time staff) who performed soil and water resource management activities under the direction of the LCC in 2019.
- 2) Arrange the positions in descending order, starting with the first position for which you are requesting 100% funding and the second position for which 70% funding is requested.
- 3) Follow these rules for grant requests involving the county's first and second positions:

a. *First position eligibility requirements.*

To be claimed as a first position, a staff person must be a department head, technician or engineer, and must spend 95% or more of his or her time on “qualifying conservation activities.” The following conservation activities are considered qualifying:

1. Providing technical assistance to farmers and landowners regarding soil and water management.
2. Designing and installing conservation practices.
3. Implementing NR 151 performance standards.
4. Monitoring and securing conservation compliance for the Farmland Preservation Program.
5. Administering livestock and manure management ordinances including permit approvals.
6. Implementing construction site and storm water management.
7. Carrying out soil and water management components (e.g. reclamation plans for non-metallic mines) in connection with other permitting.
8. Entering into and monitoring CREP agreements and easements.
9. Conducting tree and seed sales only if it supports specific conservation purpose.
10. Preparing strategic and work plans related to soil and water resource management activities.

Managers who supervise staff performing the ten (10) activities listed above may count this supervisory work as a qualifying activity. Also managers may count policy development, program management, or budget decisions as a qualifying activity as long as these management actions involve the ten activities. To be claimed as a first position, a technician or engineer must maintain the appropriate credentials including engineering practitioner certification to perform technical functions involving conservation.

The following are not “qualifying conservation activities” for the purposes of seeking 100 percent funding for the first position, even though they may be included by a county in its DATCP-approved LWRM plan:

1. Performing park maintenance and operational activities, including mowing or other grounds activities, and repair of park structures and buildings.
2. Performing zoning activities including those related to onsite property inspections, required lot line and other setbacks, septic system inspection, and parcel subdivision, and permitting unrelated soil and water management (e.g. non-metallic mining except for reclamation plans, conditional use permits for rural residences).
3. Processing wildlife damage claims.
4. Conducting outreach and education activities related to aquatic and terrestrial invasive species. (NOTE: DATCP will provide reimbursement for activities such as invasive species outreach and education as long as these are consistent with priorities in a county’s land and water resource management plan.)
5. Implementing or managing land records and information unrelated to conservation, recycling, Clean Sweep, or other county programs that receive, or are eligible for support from state and local sources other than the DATCP and DNR allocations for soil and water resource management.

Managers who supervise staff performing the five activities listed above are likewise ineligible to claim their supervisory work as a qualifying activity. Likewise managers may not count policy development, program management, or budget decisions as qualifying work if these management actions fall within the areas identified by the bulleted points.

If a county has one or more staff persons ineligible for funding as a first position, the county may claim the person as a second position funded by DATCP at a maximum of 70 percent. While the second position has no requirement related to full time conservation work, the county will need to reduce the eligible salary and fringe benefits for the position by the percentage of the time spent on non-conservation activities.

DATCP may request that counties make available additional documentation to substantiate a position’s eligibility.

- b. *Vacant Position.* You cannot list the salary and benefits of an employee if that person retired or left employment during 2019. If the employee's position was re-filled in 2019 or will be re-filled in 2020, you should select from either of the two options listed in c. and d. below.
 - c. *Positions not yet hired.* If you are requesting funding to fill a first or second position that is vacant, you must include the expected fill date, list the expected salary and benefits in Columns C and D, and be prepared to provide appropriate documentation, which may include a commitment to hire the position in 2020 (e.g. county approval to hire) and proof that the position was in fact hired including the salary and fringe benefits provided. DATCP may disallow a funding request if the required information is not provided.
 - d. *Positions employed for part of 2019 or 2020.* For a first or second position filled only part of the year in 2019 or 2020, you may project the position's salary and benefits as if the person were employed for a full year, and list these values in Columns C and D. You also must provide an explanation of how you calculated the projected salaries and benefits in the yellow highlighted space provided on the bottom of Table 1.
- 4) After inserting the county name in Table 1, complete the following for each position (FTE, LTE or IC) hired by the county to perform soil and water conservation (abbreviated as conservation) work in 2019:

COLUMN A: From the list of titles on the bottom of the page, please select the position description that best describes each position listed, inserting the corresponding letter A-E.

COLUMN B: Using the drop down menu, identify the status of each position from the following selections: full time permanent employee-FTE, limited term employee-LTE, or independent contractor-IC. Include the actual fill date for a position hired in 2019 or the anticipated fill date for a position to be hired after 2019. See note in 3) c. above. County staff positions vacant for more than one year cannot be included.

COLUMN C: Provide the salary or fee paid for each position listed based on actual costs incurred in 2019, unless the position is vacant or new. See note in 3) d. above.

COLUMN D: Provide fringe benefits for each employee listed based on actual costs incurred in 2019, unless the position is vacant or new. **Please Note: Enter only those fringe amounts that are paid with county funds and do not include employee contribution for health care, retirement, etc.**

COLUMN E: Determine percent (round to the nearest whole number) of time that each position performs soil and water conservation work. As described in s. ATCP 50.32(3) (a), this work includes activities under this chapter, ch. 91, Stats., and s. 93.90, Stats., the CREP program, and projects funded by DNR under ss. 281.65 and 281.66, Stats., and activities related to DNR notices of discharge under ch. NR 243. Additional restrictions as described above apply to the first position. Not all activities listed in a county's approved Land and Water Resource Management Plans may qualify.

COLUMN F: Locked Formula

COLUMN G: Locked Formula

- 5) Check to see if the total eligible costs (Column F) are correctly tabulated by **manually adding** Columns C and D and multiplying the result by Column E.
- 6) Please leave column "G" blank. The spreadsheet automatically calculates the sum of fourth and subsequent positions.

- 7) Since the electronic version of Table 1 is directly linked with Section I, part 2.A. on the grant application form, your staffing grant request is automatically calculated. You may wish to visually confirm that amounts in column F in Table 1 transferred to appropriate locations for the first, second and third positions on the grant application.

Verification and correction of staffing data in Table 1

Counties should exercise great care in verifying the salary and fringe benefit information provided in Table 1. After the April 15th grant application deadline, a county can only make changes to Table 1 under the following conditions:

Counties have about a two weeks, usually between April 29th and June 15th, to correct the staffing data they submitted with their grant application, and thereby revise their grant application.

Within this period, DATCP will provide each county with a table listing the staffing data upon which the preliminary allocation will be based. If the county concludes that the data is correct, it does not need to take further action. However, if a county determines that the information sent by DATCP is not accurate, the county will need to do the following to correct its original submission:

- a) The county must provide adequate documentation verifying the salary and benefits for the first, second or third position. This documentation may include a payroll documentation breaking down staffing costs for that position on a weekly or monthly basis.
- b) Even though the chief financial officer (CFO) is no longer required to sign the original application, the CFO must certify that the revised salary and benefits are accurate, and must explain the steps the county will institute to avoid providing DATCP inaccurate information on staff salary costs on future grant applications.

If a county does not follow these procedures, DATCP will not adjust the staffing data provided in the original grant application. Following the release of the preliminary allocation, DATCP will not accept requests to modify a county's staffing grant allocation unless the request will result in a reduced staffing grant allocation for the county.

3. DNR Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management Grant Program - Planning

To apply for these grants, which DNR is offering in 2021, you must complete the separate application materials found here, <http://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/UrbanNonpoint.html> (Hold down the CTRL key and click on the web address).

Note: If you apply for this grant, you are no longer required to include the total amounts requested on page 1 of the Joint DATCP/DNR Grant Application for Calendar Year 2021.

For questions about DNR grants, please contact, Joanna Griffin, (608)264-8953
joanna.griffin@wisconsin.gov

SECTION II. COST-SHARE GRANTS

1. DATCP Bond Cost-Share Grants

Note: Your request for DATCP cost-share grants should accurately reflect anticipated need. DATCP will review annual grant requests and transfers for consistency with a county's annual work plan.

A. Overview and Application Guidance

- 1) DATCP plans to set aside about 20 percent of available funds to award \$10,000 base grants to each county, and will use data in its possession to make additional awards to counties based on the following criteria (the anticipated percent of total funding available in each category is shown in parenthesis but DATCP may vary these percentages when making awards):
 - a. Three-year cumulative under-spending percentage. *Note: We will be excluding extended underspending for three years* (20%).
 - b. County land in farms by acres based on most recent Ag Census data (30%).
 - c. A 3-year cumulative total dollar amount spent on cost-shared practices (30%).
- 2) To apply for funding, counties should enter the dollar amount of their bond request in Section II, line no. 1.

2. DATCP SEG Cost-Share Grants

A. Overview and Application Guidance

- 1) The top priority for use of SEG funds will be for nutrient management (NM) planning and cropping practices to support NM plan implementation and soil erosion control. However, DATCP is piloting additional flexibility on the use of SEG funds for 2021 (See #5 below and the *Uses of SEG Funds* chart).
- 2) DATCP will reimburse NM plans at the annual rate of \$10 per acre for a period of four years based on a checklist submission documenting that a nutrient management plan meets the NRCS 590 standard (Dec. 2015).
- 3) Applicants will be ranked using a 100 point scale based on the following four criteria (maximum point totals are listed for each category):
 - a. Up to 20 points for having one or more Agricultural Enterprise Areas within the county, fulfilling the priority required by Wis. Stats. s. 92.14(6)(c).
 - b. Up to 20 points based on the extent of impaired waters located in each county, fulfilling the priority required by Wis. Stats. s. 92.14(6)(c).
 - c. Up to 30 points based on percent of county with NM plans (Counties will be expected to submit checklists to DATCP and their submission will establish the extent of NM plan coverage in the county).
 - d. Up to 30 points based on a county's total positive spending on NM cost-sharing and NMFE in the prior year (2019). Positive spending includes funds spent cost-sharing practices in the grant year and does not include funds that a county extends into the next year or transfers to another county.
- 4) To apply for funding, counties should enter the dollar amount of their SEG request in Section II, line no. 2. The application no longer requires that you include your calculations based on the number of acres cost-shared at a specific rate; however, in making your request, account for the following:
 - a. Funds required to cost-share NM plans as determined by the number of acres to be cost-shared multiplied by the four-year cost-share rate for each acre. For example, at the rate of \$10 per acre per year, a county would need \$40,000 dollars to cost-share 1,000 acres. If a county will cost-share NM plans at different rates, the county should perform separate

calculations using each different rate multiplied by the number acres cost-shared at that rate, and then combine the results to determine the funds needed.

- b. Funds to implement cover crops and other “soft” practices to support NM, soil erosion control, and soil health. In funding “soft” practices you should follow the requirements in ATCP 50 and cost-sharing policies (see below).
- 5) A portion of the SEG funds will be reserved for innovative uses proposed by counties as part of this grant application process. Multi-county projects or projects that cooperate with producer-led watershed groups are encouraged and will be considered. If you are interested in applying for an SEG innovation grant, please submit a paragraph in the grant submittal email, along with the full grant application, with the 1) Dollar request 2) The SEG Fund Innovation idea 3) How the funds will be used to implement land and water conservation in your county or counties 4) A contact name, email and phone number.

OTHER ALLOWABLE USES OF SEG FUNDS

- **Cropping practices to support nutrient management, soil erosion control, and soil health**
Without prior approval by DATCP, a county may use up to 50 percent of the county’s annual SEG cost-share allocation on the following practices:

- 50.67, Contour farming
- 50.68, Cover and green manure crop
- 50.82, Residue management
- 50.89, Strip-cropping

Additional practices may be allowed with written approval from DATCP

Unless otherwise approved by DATCP, the landowner must submit a nutrient management plan checklist covering the cropland where the soft practice is installed.

- **Select conservation practices for counties with 75% or more of their cropland covered by nutrient management plans.** If a county has 75 percent or more of cropland covered by nutrient management plans, it may qualify for DATCP approval to use SEG funds to cost-share select practices including grassed waterways, manure storage and other bondable practices. **A limit of 50% of a county’s 2021 allocated SEG dollars can be used for this purpose.** To secure DATCP approval for the support practice, a county must submit the following before signing the cost-share contract with a landowner or operator:
 - A request to DATCP identifying the practices to be installed and the DATCP cost-share dollars needed to cost-share the practices;
 - Documentation in the form of a completed NM plan checklist establishing that the cost-shared practices will be installed on a farm that has a NM plan; and
 - An explanation of why SEG funding is needed to cost-share the identified practices. The county should explain why other funds (including DATCP bond funds) are not available and the resource concern or priority the practice is designed to address.
 - Written DATCP approval must be submitted by the county to obtain reimbursement.

Questions regarding payment for NM support practices should be directed to **Kim Carlson**, kim.carlson@wisconsin.gov, 608-224-4610 or **Susan Mockert**, susan.mockert@wisconsin.gov, 608-224-4648.

3. & 4. DNR Funding for Targeted Runoff Management Projects and Urban NPS & Storm Water Management BMP Construction Projects

- A. Apply for Targeted Runoff Management Grants using the grant application form and instructions available at this website: <http://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/TargetedRunoff.html>

Note: If you apply for this grant, you are no longer required to include the total amount requested on page 1 of the Joint DATCP/DNR Grant Application for Calendar Year 2021.

The applications are due in April for projects beginning in 2021. The application form and instructions are available at the listed website.

For questions about DNR grants, contact Joanna Griffin, (608) 264-8953, joanna.griffin@wisconsin.gov.

- B. Apply for Urban Nonpoint Source & Storm Water Management Construction Grants using the grant application form and instructions available at this website: <https://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/UrbanNonpoint.html>

Note: If you apply for this grant, you are no longer required to include the total amount requested on page 1 of the Joint DATCP/DNR Grant Application for Calendar Year 2021.

The applications are due in April for projects beginning in 2021. The application form and instructions are available at the listed website.

For questions about DNR grants, contact Joanna Griffin, (608) 264-8953, joanna.griffin@wisconsin.gov.

SECTION III. COUNTY FINANCIAL, STAFFING NUMBERS, AND WORK PLAN AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. Financial Report of County LCD Expenditures For 2019

Counties should complete the following steps:

- A. Enter the total amount of all LCD expenditures in 2019. Enter all expenditures administered by the LCD, including staff salaries and fringe benefits, other LCC and LCD operating costs, cost-sharing expenditures (e.g., NPS watershed projects, county cost-share programs, etc.) and any other expenditures regardless of the source of funding.
- B. Enter the total expenditure from all non-county sources of revenue. Count revenues from DATCP, DNR TRM, DNR Wildlife Damage Control, USDA NRCS, foundations, EQIP, etc.
- C. This box is locked because it contains a formula. It subtracts Line 2 from Line 1 and the amount on this line should reflect funding from county sources, such as levies and fees.
- D. Enter the actual amount of salary and fringe benefits paid from budgeted county source funds.
(Line 1.D. cannot exceed line 1.C.)

2. Funding for 2019 County Staff

Counties should enter the number of 2019 ***FTE, LTE, IC*** staff funded by the following categories: County, DATCP SWRM Grant Program, and All Other. If a staff person worked less than 40 hours per

week or worked in others area than conservation (e.g. zoning), the staff person should be assigned a number of less than one, reflecting the reduced percentage of qualifying work. The total number of staff should be equal to or close to equal to the sum of FTEs, LTEs and ICs listed in Table 1. *(The Total Box is locked because it contains a formula.)*

3. 2020 Work Plan

All counties applying for DATCP funds must submit a work plan by April 15, 2020 that accurately describes their planned activities for 2020. Counties will expected to use the most current template for their work plans. Counties may comply with this requirement by submitting a 2020 work plan with LWRM plan revisions.

If you have questions regarding this process, you may contact **Lisa Trumble** at 608-224-4617, Lisa.Trumble@wisconsin.gov

4. 2019 Annual Report

To be eligible for 2021 funding, your county must electronically submit its 2019 Annual Report to DATCP. You will receive instructions that explain what you must submit. If you have questions regarding this process, you may contact **Coreen Fallat**, 608-224-4625, Coreen.Fallat@wisconsin.gov

BOND FUNDING FOR DNR AND DATCP COST-SHARING RESERVE

DATCP and DNR have set aside funds in separate reserves for cost-sharing projects intended to resolve discharges on farms, primarily those issued notices of discharge and notices of intent.

To apply for these funds, counties must use an application process separate from this application. Go to the DNR website for additional information, <http://dnr.wi.gov/Aid/NOD.html> *(Hold down the CTRL key and click on the web address).*

The first round of applications is due April 15th of each year. Up to three additional grant rounds may be available per year. See the DNR website for the annual schedule.

DATCP will participate in the evaluation of the first round of grant applications, and then will make separate funding decisions regarding any remaining amounts in its reserve.

Contact **Mike Gilbertson** at DNR, (608) 267-7628, Mike.Gilbertson@wisconsin.gov, or **Matt Woodrow** at DATCP, (920) 427-8508, Matthew.Woodrow@wisconsin.gov

FUNDING FOR STATEWIDE COOPERATORS AND OTHER PROJECTS

Sec. ATCP 50.35, Wis. Admin, Code, establishes the procedures for the award and administration of grant funds to recipients whose activities and projects further Chapter 92 goals. Sec. ATCP 50.35(3) specifically allows for a one-year extension of funded projects to enable grant recipients to spend unused funds and complete work required by a project.

DATCP will be offering funding for nutrient management farmer education, and “statewide” nutrient management implementation support. Persons interested in these grants should apply using DATCP approved application materials. DATCP will continue to accept funding requests for unspecified cooperator projects.

DATCP expects grant recipients in this category to have performance measures and report on the extent to which they meet those measures.

1. Nutrient Management Farmer Education (NMFE) Grants

A. Overview and Application Guidance

- 1) The NMFE Program will offer two funding tiers with a \$20,000 maximum award for Tier 1 and a \$2,500 maximum for Tier 2. On a trial basis in 2021, \$2000 will also be available, in addition to these maximums, specifically to support purchase of up to 2 laptops per NMFE county partner to use for farmer development of NM plans using SNAP Plus. Laptops must be Windows-based and able to install SNAP Plus and other needed NM planning software.
 - a. Tier 1 projects offer extensive grant support (including payments for soil testing and incentive payments for farmer participation) to deliver a training program that enables farmers to develop or update nutrient management plans meeting the NRCS 590 standard (Dec. 2015) and facilitates compliance with state soil and water conservation standards.
 - b. Tier 2 projects educate farmers about soil testing and nutrient management planning principles and practices without requiring that farmers develop a NRCS 590 Nutrient Management Plan.
- 2) To learn about eligibility and other grant requirements, entities interested in this funding should review the instructions and application materials available separately from the NMFE program website, https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/NMFEGrants.aspx.
- 3) Contact **Ryan Erisman**, (608) 224-4604, Ryan.Erisman@wisconsin.gov with questions or to submit application materials.

2. Grants for Nutrient Management Statewide Implementation Support

A. Overview and Application Guidance

- 1) DATCP will continue to make funding available for applicants who demonstrate a “statewide” capacity to accomplish one or both the following: (1) Maintain and improve the Soil Nutrient Application Program –Plus (SNAP-Plus); (2) Expand and support nutrient management planning through education, outreach and project implementation.
- 2) Specific requirements and conditions for these grant awards, including the maximum amount provided for each grant, are spelled out in separate application materials, which can be downloaded from this DATCP website, https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/SWRMSect6.aspx

Contact **Jennifer Heaton-Amrhein**, (608) 224-4634, Jennifer.HeatonAmrhein@wisconsin.gov with questions.

3. Other Project Cooperator Grants

A. Overview and Application Guidance

- 1) DATCP makes annual awards to cooperators for projects that provide “statewide” support or other unique benefits that enhance our state conservation delivery system. Historically, DATCP has provided funding to cooperators for technical standards development and provision of training. DATCP’s focus for 2021 is continued training support for conservation staff and support of efforts to provide information, support for the work of the Standards Oversight

Council, technical assistance and incentives provided in Agricultural Enterprise Areas as part of a collaborative partnership, and innovative ways to implement state conservation priorities.

Funding for cooperators is designed to achieve these goals: (a) provide a cost-effective approach to addressing and resolving high priority problems (i.e. nonpoint and groundwater pollution), (b) ensure a systematic and comprehensive approach to address soil erosion and water quality problems such as nonpoint runoff or groundwater concerns, (c) contribute to a coordinated soil and water resource management program and avoid duplication of effort, and (d) help meet county soil and water resource management needs and state program requirements.

- 2) There is no formal application to request funding in this category. Requests for funding must be submitted no later than April 15th of the year prior to the start date of the project, and should include all of the following as part of an application:
 - a. A realistic request for funding consistent with prior awards provided by DATCP for similar projects in this funding category.
 - b. A description of the project that includes an appropriate work plan describing planned activities with anticipated outcomes that can be measured.
 - c. A justification that explains how the proposed project will meet one or more of the funding goals listed in A. 1) above.
- 3) For questions about funding opportunities, contact **Jennifer Heaton-Amrhein**, 608-224-4634, Jennifer.HeatonAmrhein@wisconsin.gov. To submit an application, e-mail your proposal requesting funding and accompanying documents to **Kim Carlson**, Kim.Carlson@Wisconsin.gov.